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Mexico Amends Cotton Pest Control Regulation

Report Categories:

Policy and Program Announcements

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Report Highlights:

On June 10, 2014, the Mexican Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fishery and Food (SAGARPA) published in the "*Diario Oficial*" (Federal Register) a proposed modification to NOM-026-FITO that establishes cotton plant pest control measures to combat against pink bollworm and cotton boll weevil. Comments are due in Spanish within the next 60 calendar days after publication (June 10, 2014).

General Information:

Introduction: This report summarizes an announcement by SAGARPA published in Mexico's "*Diario Oficial*" (Federal Register) on June 10, 2014, containing the Project of Modification (*Proyecto de Modificacion*) that amends Official Mexican Regulation NOM-026-FITO-1995. The amendment updates requirements and phytosanitary specifications to a SAGARPA lead campaign that was initiated in 1995. The campaign requires cotton producers and cotton related industries to take prescribed measures in order to better control cotton plant pests, principally pink bollworm and cotton boll weevil.

Disclaimer: This summary is based on a cursory review of the subject announcement and therefore should not, under any circumstances, be viewed as a definitive reading of the resolution in question, or of its implications for U.S. agricultural export trade interests. In the event of a discrepancy or discrepancies between this summary and the complete resolution or announcement as published in Spanish, the latter shall prevail.

Title of Notice: Project of Modification to the Official Mexican Norm NOM-026-FITO-1995 that establishes requirements and phytosanitary specifications to control cotton plant pests.

Type of Resolution: Project of Modification now open for public comments.

Publication Date: June 10, 2014

Comment period: 60 calendar days from publication date in the Federal Register (June 10, 2014)

Products Affected: Cotton

Agency in Charge: Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fishery and Food (SAGARPA).

Executive Summary:

On June 10, 2014, SAGARPA published in Mexico's Federal Register a proposed amendment to the Official Mexican Norm (NOM-026-PHYTO-1995), that establishes pest controls measures for cotton plants in order to mitigate the risk of the spread of pink bollworm and cotton boll weevil. Stakeholders have the opportunity to comment on the amendment, known as Project of Modification, within 60 calendar days from date of publication, or until August 9, 2014.

To control pests in cotton plants, it is necessary to ensure that each phytosanitary control measure is managed properly and in accordance with government and environmental regulations to ensure with precision, its efficiency and performance of the pest control method being used. Thus NOM-026 establishes the revised criteria to improve mandatory regulations to combat, control and eradicate the spread of pink boll worm and cotton boll weevil in Mexican states where cotton is cultivated. SAGARPA's official opinion in this regard is a required responsibility by producers and related stakeholders alike to coordinate with official phytosanitary authorities, ensuring they have in place properly established and verifiable phytosanitary measures to appropriately control these pests.

Comments to the Regulation: Interested parties should submit scientifically and technically supported comments to the proposed amendment in Spanish, to the *Comite Consultivo Nacional de Normalizacion Agroalimentaria* (National Advisory Committee of Agrifood Regulation) at:

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For More Information

FAS/Mexico Web Site: We are available at http://www.mexico-usda.com.mx or visit the FAS headquarters' home page at www.fas.usda.gov for a complete selection of FAS worldwide agricultural reporting.

Useful Mexican Web Sites: Mexico's equivalent of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (SAGARPA) can be found at www.sagarpa.gob.mx, the equivalent of the U.S. Department of Commerce (SE) can be found at www.economia.gob.mx, and the equivalent of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (SALUD) can be found at www.salud.gob.mx. These web sites are mentioned for the reader's convenience but USDA does NOT in any way endorse, guarantee the accuracy of, or necessarily concur with, the information contained on the mentioned sites.